

37748 to 37798—Contd. (Quoted notes by Mr. Dorsett and others.)

37791. "A tree believed to be about 40 years old, but with a top much younger than this, perhaps 8 years old, as the tree has been renewed by cutting it back to the old stump. Its height is about 10 feet, its spread 12 feet, its habit drooping, its trunk $29\frac{1}{4}$ inches in circumference, and it is headed 14 inches above the ground. The foliage is dense, dark green; no thorns. In the June crop there are 139 fruits and in the December crop 35, the principal variations being in the size of the navel, which is from very small to medium."

37792. "A tree said to be more than 40 years old, about 20 feet in height, and 27 feet in spread, erect in habit, headed more than 4 feet above the ground, with a trunk $37\frac{1}{2}$ inches in circumference. The foliage is sparse, dark green; no spines. In the June crop there are 234 fruits and in the December crop 139, among them being many which are flattened or wrinkled. Navels vary from medium to large in size, some of them being very large and protruding. This and S. P. I. No. 37791 are from a grove that is said to be one of the very oldest existing in Bahia. The Bahia navel orange is believed to have originated near it. Many of the trees in this grove are said to be about 40 or more years of age, but have had their tops renewed several times by cutting back to the trunk, a custom common in Bahian orchards. The orchardists generally believe that these renewed tops produce better fruit than the original tree. It appears to us that this may be due to the fact that as the trees grow older and decline in vigor and productiveness, the fruit naturally becomes smaller and poorer. By renewal its size and quality are considerably increased, equal perhaps to the fruits borne by a young tree. This 45-year-old orchard is said to be one of the most productive and profitable in Bahia."

37793. CITRUS sp. Rutaceae.

Lime orange.

From the grove of Col. João de Teive e Argollo, Agua Comprida, Bahia. Lime orange, called in Portuguese *laranja lima*. See S. P. I. No. 37784 for description.

37794. NEOGLAZIOVIA VARIEGATA (Arruda) Mez. Bromeliaceae. Caroá. (*Billbergia variegata* Schultz.)

From Joazeiro, Brazil. Presented by Dr. Leo Zehntner, Director of the Horto Florestal, Joazeiro, Bahia.

"This plant is found in the caatingas or dry lands of the interior of Bahia State, particularly around Joazeiro. It grows to a height of 4 or 5 feet, and is conspicuous among the other plants on the caatinga because of its variegated leaves, which are deep green blotched with white. The natives harvest the wild plants, extract the fiber, and make of it ropes, baskets, hammocks, etc. One of the commonest articles made of caroá fiber is a small rope about one-fourth of an inch in diameter and 6 feet in length, which is sold in the Joazeiro markets at 100 reis (about 3 cents) and is used to string up hammocks.

"Statistics concerning the extent of the caroá industry are lacking. The plant should be worthy of a trial in the southwestern United States,